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AIR FORCE, NAVY WITHDRAW FROM PROCESS

Air Force Communique

PY222328 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2308 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- The air force tonight released the following communique:

In view of the current domestic and international political circumstances facing the country and in order to channel in the most suitable manner the stage of the process of national reorganization scheduled to give rise to the final institutionalization of the nation in the first months of 1984, the air force believes it necessary to appoint a civilian as president of the nation, who will be capable of complying with the provisions of the national Constitution and the powers vested by it and the statute for the process of national reorganization in keeping with guidelines agreed upon with the representative sectors of the nation.

In view of the rejection of this proposal, as well as of other options such as mechanism for popular consultation and of the exhaustion of all attempts at conciliation, the air force has decided to withdraw as of today from the political leadership of the process of national reorganization. Its commander in chief will remain member of the military junta to decide on matters pertaining to security, defense and other issues which, because of their significance, have a bearing on the supreme interests of the nation. He will also retain his powers as member of the military committee for the management of military strategy.

This strictly political decision of the air force does not upset the traditional cohesion of the Argentine Armed Forces.

Navy Communique

PY230008 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2337 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- The office of the commander in chief of the navy tonight announced that in view of the lack of agreement on the appointment of the future president of the nation "it has decided to cease, from this date on, participating in the leadership of the process of national reorganization.

Here is the text of the communique:

During the discussions held by the military junta from 19 through 22 June 1982, its members unanimously agreed that the period of government between now and the first months of 1984 must be one of transition in order to implement at its end, the full institutionalization of the nation.

The commanders in chief also decided that the executive branch to be appointed will have to draw up, on a priority basis and together with representative sectors of the nation, the basic aspects of a political, economic and social plan capable of expediting the development of this stage as well as its evolution into the constitutional phase.

From the very beginning, the navy made clear its stand that either a civilian or a retired military officer, in this order of preference, should be appointed president of the nation.

The incompatibility of this stand with other stands precluded any kind of unanimous solution.

These differences in stands had delayed a decision which must obviously not be delayed, so as to not cause irreparable damage to the nation's structure and future.

Aware of this situation, the navy has decided to cease, from this date on, participating in the leadership of the process of national reorganization.

The navy will continue to exercise all its rights and responsibilities in both specific and collective affairs at the domestic and international levels.

Until the takeover of the constitutional government in 1984, the navy leadership will be the exclusive responsibility of this institution.

The navy wishes to take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate its position regarding the South Atlantic conflict, which will end only after the nation achieves recognition of its sovereignty over the Malvinas, Georgias and South Sandwich Islands.

The national unity expressed on 2 April 1982, strengthened in the face of adversity, will be the only guarantee of our future.

Army To Assume Leadership

PY221731 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1651 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun -- In answer to a question on the current situation, a military source stated that if an agreement is not reached within the next few hours among the three branches of the armed forces to appoint a president, "it is possible that the army will have to assume the responsibility of conducting the government alone."

The possible withdrawal from the process by the navy and the air force due to the problem over designating the future president creates a situation neither predicted nor contemplated in the basic documents of the national reorganization process.

If the withdrawal of the two branches is formalized, the top government organization will probably hold a final meeting to establish or legalize its self-dissolution. This will bring substantial changes to the initial act of the process, as well as to Law No 21256 which regulates the functioning of the military junta and of the executive branch, and also establishes norms for the relief or replacement of the president of the nation in the event a vacancy in the presidency should exist.

The act for the process was issued on 29 March 1976 and signed by the then members of the military junta, Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera and Lt Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti.

ARMY NAMES GENERAL BIGNONE NEW PRESIDENT

Army Position Outlined

PY222031 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2008 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- This afternoon a reliable military source disclosed the reasons behind the army's position concerning the appointment of the future president of the nation.

The spokesman said that the army's position in favor of a retired general is based on a provision of the statute for the national reorganization process which expressly states that the national executive branch should be headed by a retired high-ranking officer of the armed forces.

Second, the spokesman said, a civilian president would have to deal with too many restrictions and would not have the power and support needed at this difficult transition stage.

Third, the army's position also reportedly takes into account that there is no civilian figure free from political commitments who could assume the presidency with adequate support at this juncture.

Another contention of the spokesman is that the army believes that those political figures who could take charge of the presidency will be immediately questioned by other political sectors which would distrust the impartiality of the government at a stage which will have to ultimately culminate with the institutionalization of the country.

Finally, the source said, the army cannot walk out of the process of national reorganization at this crucial moment which will have to lead to the above institutionalization.

Army Communique

PY222104 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2053 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Communique released by the Argentine Army commander in chief]

[Text] The army commander in chief, Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides, hereby informs the nation that pursuant to a decision adopted today by the commanders in chief and members of the military junta, the Argentine Army has assumed responsibility for the political leadership of the national government.

In view of this, the army has offered the post of president of the Argentine nation to Maj Gen Reynaldo Benito Antonio Bignone, who has accepted the appointment to carry on a limited transition government which will have the following political goals:

1. To institutionalize the nation in the shortest possible time which will be agreed upon with political leaders in accordance with those steps which may be necessary to organize the parties and other basic organizations of national life and to implement an orderly transfer of power to guarantee its stability. It has been decided that this deadline should not go beyond the early months of 1984.

2. To improve the overall situation at all levels as much as possible, taking into account that due to the brevity of the term of government, actions must be aimed at promoting and strengthening that which will be continued in the following constitutional period.

3. The army will support this transition period to the attainment of the final objective, that is, the final institutionalization of the nation.

4. The essential aspects of the political, economic and social plan will be set up in agreement with representative sectors of the nation.

5. In keeping with the above, adjustments will be made to the basic documents which, together with the national Constitution, currently regulate the nation's institutional life.

6. This decision does not undermine the cohesion of the armed forces, which continue united to safeguard the highest interests of the nation under the directives of their respective commanders in chief.

7. Maj Gen Reynaldo Benito Antonio Bignone will be installed on 1 July 1982.

Signed in Buenos Aires on 22 June 1982.

Signed: Cristino Nicolaides, lieutenant general, army commander in chief.

Biography of Bignone

PY222318 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2027 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- The new president of the nation, Maj Gen Reynaldo Benito Antonio Bignone (Ret), was born in Moron, Buenos Aires Province, on 21 January 1928. He completed his last assignment in the army as commander of military institutions, a post he held from October 1980 to the day of his retirement, 31 December 1981.

General Bignone joined the national military school as a cadet in 1944. He graduated as an infantry 3d lieutenant in July 1947.

After serving in several army units, he graduated as a staff officer late in 1957. In March 1958 he served at the war college as a staff officer and in December 1958 he joined the army staff and took an intelligence course for officers at the war college.

Late in 1959 he was promoted to major. He was appointed commander of the 7th Infantry Division and served as a staff officer at the office of the army commander in chief. He then joined the army center for higher studies.

On 31 December 1964 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and after completing several army assignments he was promoted to colonel on 31 December 1970.

Two years later, in 1972, he served at the army staff as a staff officer and in 1973 he was appointed secretary of the army staff. He became director of the military school on 12 December 1975 and late that year he was promoted to brigadier general.

On 24 March 1976 he was appointed representative of the military junta at the Social Welfare Ministry. Later he served as deputy commander of military institutions and in 1978 he became secretary general of the office of the army commander in chief, a post that took him several times to the Vatican to oversee the status of the Argentine-Chilean negotiations on the Beagle Channel conflict.

He was promoted to major general in December 1978 and in October 1980 he was appointed commander of military institutions, a post he held until his retirement in December 1981.

General Bignone is married to Nilda Raquel Belen and they have three children.

BIGNONE TO MEET WITH POLITICAL LEADERS 23 JUN

Anaya, Lami Dozo

PY230048 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0028 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- President-designate Reynaldo Bignone will hold separate meetings tomorrow with the commanders in chief of the air force and the navy, an army spokesman announced tonight.

The spokesman said that Bignone will go to the Condor Building at 0930 to meet with Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo and 30 minutes later he will go to the navy headquarters to meet with Adm Jorge Anaya.

Party Leaders

PY230058 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0026 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- An army spokesman announced tonight that President-designate Reynaldo Bignone will meet with representatives of 15 political parties tomorrow.

The spokesman indicated neither the location nor the time of the meeting.

He added that "this initial meeting with politicians does not exclude the possibility of holding (?other meetings) before the presidential inauguration."

REPORTAGE ON NATIONAL, LOCAL RESIGNATIONS

Costa Mendez to Resign

PY230051 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0042 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez will say goodbye to the San Martin Palace personnel tomorrow afternoon. The ceremony will be held in the Foreign Ministry's golden room.

Ambassador Enrique Juan Ros, the present foreign relations under secretary, will serve as ad interim foreign minister.

Jose Miret Resigns

PY221904 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1855 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- Maj Gen Jose Miret has submitted his resignation from the post of planning secretary which he assumed on 15 November 1978, according to a report issued by a secretariat spokesman this afternoon.

The resignation of the official occurred "by reason of events which are known to the public."

La Rioja Governor, Cabinet

PY230259 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0034 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] La Rioja, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- It was officially reported through the provincial public information secretariat that the La Rioja Governor Brig Guillermo Piastrellini (Ret), today submitted his resignation, along with all the members of his cabinet.

The provincial public information secretariat also reported that the resignations were submitted by telephone to Interior Minister Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean.

Salta Governor, Officials

PY230256 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0055 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Salta, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- Salta Governor Roberto Augusto Ulloa, the members of the provincial cabinet, and the public information director decided to resign tonight.

This decision was made after a long meeting, and the resignations will be officially submitted to ad interim President General Saint Jean tomorrow.

Santa Cruz Governor

PY222259 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2249 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 22 Jun (NA) -- The governor of Santa Cruz Province, Maj Gen Antonio Diego Lopez (Ret), today resigned his post, reliable sources have reported here.

Lopez is the second member of the air force to have tendered his resignation. The first was the planning secretary, Brig Gen Jose Miret, whose resignation was announced in Buenos Aires.

PUBLIC INFORMATION SECRETARY DENIES RESIGNATIONS

PY222352 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2324 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- Public Information Secretary Ricardo Baltierrez said tonight that no resignations have been thus far submitted to Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean by any minister, state secretary or presidential secretary.

Baltierrez said that today General Saint Jean again asked the ministers, secretaries, provincial governors, and the Buenos Aires municipal mayor to remain in their posts until Maj Gen Reynaldo Benito Bignone (Ret), the president designated by army headquarters, is installed.

Baltierrez reported on the above when General Saint Jean was about to leave for army headquarters to participate in the meeting of high-ranking army officers.

Baltierrez added that General Saint Jean intends to convene the cabient within the next few hours, adding that the meeting will be held tomorrow. He also said that General Saint Jean contacted the Chaco and Formosa governors this afternoon to learn about the situation caused by the flooding in those two provinces. He added that General Saint Jean intends to travel to the two capitals to make a personal evaluation of the situation.

Baltierrez concluded that General Saint Jean has no meetings scheduled for tomorrow.

POSSIBLE NEW ECONOMY, INTERIOR, FOREIGN MINISTERS

PY222215 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2153 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- Former Economy Minister Jose Maria Dagnino Pastore may be appointed economy minister during Gen Reynaldo Bignone's administration, according to the nomination plans which are supposedly already in the hands of the future president.

Other names under consideration are Gen Carlos A. Martinez, former chief of the SIDE [State Intelligence Secretariat], for interior minister and Raul Quijano, current Argentine representative to the OAS, for foreign minister.

Aguirre Lanari Mentioned

PY222108 Paris AFP in Spanish 2015 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (AFP) -- Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, a 62-year-old lawyer, former senator and former governor of Buenos Aires Province, will be the new Argentine foreign minister of the president who will succeed Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, it was learned today in diplomatic sources.

Aguirre Lanari is currently the Argentine ambassador to Venezuela, a post to which he had been appointed by the then President Jorge Videla, the first president of the military process which is also known as national reorganization of the Argentine Armed Forces.

Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari was the civilian candiate for president proposed by the air force. He is also supported by the navy.

He will replace Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, who was charged with the difficult, unsuccessful negotiations aimed at achieving a peaceful solution to the Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas.

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS ON ARRIVAL OF POW'S 22 JUNE

PY222345 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2211 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- The army reported tonight that groups of military servicemen who were taken prisoner in the Malvinas have been arriving in the country since last Saturday, and that they are being transported "by plane to the Campo de Mayo garrison" from various places in Patagonia. After the administrative details are completed at the Campo de Mayo garrison, the soldiers will be transported to their respective units.

Here is the text of the communique issued in this regard:

"The previously mentioned servicemen are arriving by ship at various southern cities from where they are transported by plane to the Campo de Mayo garrison. The servicemen remain at the Campo de Mayo garrison only as long as necessary to complete the administrative details. They are then transported to their respective units. The relatives of these servicemen will have to obtain any information about them from their respective units.

"As for the personnel belonging to units of the V Army Corps, it is hereby reported that they are being transported to their respective units after disembarking.

"It is also hereby reported that an information office will be opened in the military geographical institute, located on 381 Cabildo Avenue, as of Thursday, 24 June from 0800 to 1700. This office will handle any questions about those military personnel who, for one reason or another, have been unable to get in touch with their immediate families."

PLASTIC RUNWAY REPORTEDLY EN ROUTE TO FALKLANDS

PY230158 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0015 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Jun (LATIN-REUTER) -- Plastic matting to build 600 meters of the Puerto Argentino airport's runway are on their way to the Malvinas Islands, diplomatic sources said here today.

This matting will serve to increase the length of the runway to 2,000 meters, thus enabling Phantom fighter-bombers to land in the Malvinas Islands, where they will be parked, the sources added.

The current runway, which is 1,200 meters long, can only admit short-range transport planes, and it was seriously damaged by the British bombardments during the 2-month Argentine occupation of the islands.

The sources said that a 2,000-meter runway, which was being transported by the British task force, was lost when Argentine aircraft sunk the ship "Atlantic Conveyor" 3 weeks ago.

In addition to enabling the Phantoms to strengthen the islands' air defense system, the length of the runway will enable Hercules C-130 transport planes to set up an air bridge with the base on Ascencion Island the sources added. Nevertheless, the sources stated that the runway apparently cannot be extended to 2,300 meters, which is the minimal length required for the landing of VC-10 long-range military transport aircraft.

Until the 2 April Argentine occupation of the archipelago, the Malvinas' only regular link abroad was a weekly flight to Comodoro Rivadavia in southern Argentina.

However, the sources said that there were no plans to resume these flights in the short term and that regular air communications with the Malvinas would be effected through Ascension Island in the future.

They noted that it is unlikely that any commercial air service to Chile, Uruguay or Brazil will be operated without Argentine consent.

DELEGATION TO BOYCOTT THATCHER UN SPEECH 23 JUN

PY230247 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0020 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] United Nations, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- Diplomatic sources told TELAM today that the Argentine delegation to the second special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament will not be present tomorrow during British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's speech.

Thatcher will address the General Assembly session on disarmament at 1100 local time, (1500 GMT). Her arrival at the UN headquarters and a meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar is scheduled for 1000. She will hold a press conference at 1200 (1600 GMT).

In the afternoon the British prime minister will go to Washington to meet President Ronald Reagan. It was reported that Thatcher will arrive in New York tonight and will return to London tomorrow night.

FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON EEC MEASURES

PY230651 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0220 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (TELAM) -- In a communique issued this evening San Martin Palace maintains that in ordering the lifting of the coercive measures applied against Argentina the EEC has reasserted its right to supervise the international behavior of one of the parties of the conflict, threatening to take new measures in the future.

The communique then states that the EEC thus reiterates an attitude which is contrary to international law and harmful for the normal development of international economic relations and for the interests of developing countries.

The communique adds that "the Argentine Government once again reasserts its most traditional policy of rejecting economic coercion, applied outside international juridical norms as a tool for international political pressure and considers that the international and regional economic forums will be the appropriate spheres to examine a conduct which affects the desired climate for the development of North-South relations."

The communique, issued as a declaration of the Foreign Relations Ministry, starts by stating that the coercive economic measures adopted by the EEC were opportunely termed by the Argentine Government arbitrary and illegal because they were not based on international law and because they violated the UN Charter and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The communique says: "Therefore, the Argentine Government condemned and rejected the measures which implied true economic aggression and which in practice represented specific political solidarity with Great Britain that could not avoid influencing the development of events in the Malvinas Islands."

It also points out that the measures adopted by the EEC against Argentina, as well as those adopted by other countries which supported Great Britain were objected to and condemned in various regional and international forums. Those forums have realized that the measures represent a dangerous and negative precedent in North-South relations.

The communique ends by stating that "such condemnations and rejections are based on the lack of any international legal basis for the application, by third countries, of coercive measures against one of the parties in a conflict which was and is subjected to the consideration of the UN Security Council and without this organ having termed such party an aggressor, nor having authorized the application of any coercive measures. Therefore, this, legally speaking, invalidates resorting to restrictive measures on trade within the GATT framework."

10,000 EVACUEES, MANY HOMELESS IN FLOODED AREAS

PY221738 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] There are more than 10,000 evacuees in Formosa in the wake of the Paraguay River flood. The situation is critical in Puerto Pilcomayo and Clorinda, where numerous inhabitants have been left homeless.

The government is planning to render assistance in order to reduce the disastrous efforts of the flood. This serious situation was aggravated by the sharp drop in temperature which reached unusual levels for that region.

It should be noted that the Uruguay River is also rising in the area of Concordia and Salto Grande in Entre Rios Province.

The naval prefecture is using all available means to undertake intensive rescue and patrol operations.

The Paraguay River level this morning rose by 7 centimeters according to the Formosa hydrometer, which registered 7.51 meters. The level at Puerto Pilcomayo also surpassed 7 meters this morning.

JOURNALISTS FEAR THREAT TO PRESS FREEDOM

PY221616 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] The Bolivian Journalists Federation has issued a statement to all media reporting a new attempt to frighten journalists. This attempt was carried out by a bodyguard of President Celso Torrelio in the city of Santa Cruz. The document, which is signed by (Arturo Gandarillas), (Walter Montero) and (Hernando Duena), reads:

In the face of a new attack on press freedom by the government, the Bolivian Journalists Federation hereby states that an arbitrary action has been undertaken by one of the president's bodyguards who, abusing his authority, snatched the camera of a reporter of the newspaper (EL DEBER) of Santa Cruz, in a clear attempt to muzzle and frighten the press; that such an attitude reveals the heavyhandedness of an official linked to the country's highest authority, who has repeatedly said that his government respects the press and its members; that on this occasion it was the president himself who prevented the press from fulfilling its duties, since he ordered that no pictures be taken of him, even though he was attending a public ceremony.

In view of the above and of the attacks launched by government officials against the media and journalists, The Bolivian Journalists Federation states: 1) The Bolivian Journalists Federation hereby voices a strong protest at the outrage inflicted on the reporter of the newspaper (EL DEBER), since it impairs press freedom; 2) safeguarding the legitimate right of the press to fulfill its duties in all situations which should be correctly reported to the public, the federation demands respect and guarantees for discharging such duties. Finally, the federation announces that it will contact other organizations in order to agree on joint sanctions and defensive actions, stating that unions should be on the alert for instructions.

Attack on Journalist's Home

PY230217 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The attack on the home of the chairman of the board of directors of the daily ULTIMA HORA was repudiated by the press sector. Through a communique issued today, the Journalists Association strongly protests this attack as a further attempt to restrict freedom of the press in Bolivia and as contrary to human and civilized existence. The communique also says that like previous actions against the media, the Journalists Association demands that the government identify and penalize its authors and that it give the necessary guarantees regarding the safety of the media.

Similarly, the Journalists Union stated that the actions carried out by terrorist groups against journalists and members [words indistinct] of the press are unique in Bolivian history. The union stated that this action is designed not only to restrict the freedom of speech and of the press, but also physically to eliminate those who chair the press organizations or who [words indistinct] the media.

SOCIALISTS REJECT CALL FOR NATIONAL ACCORD

PY221513 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpt] During a press conference at the Journalists Association yesterday, the Socialist Party PS-1 brought up the need to restore the democratic process which was ended on 17 July [1980] and rejected the national accord called for by the government. PS-1 spokesman (Roger Cortez) said this will be the only way to restore the rule of law, which has been disregarded since that time.

JOINT DECLARATION ISSUED AFTER ILLUECA VISIT

PAZZI945 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Jun 82 pp 1A, 10A

[Joint declaration issued by Venezuelan and Panamanian foreign ministers in Caracas 20 June]

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca visited Venezuela on 18, 19 and 20 June and held high-level political consultations with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco.

At the end of these consultations the two ministers agreed to issue this statement on behalf of their governments:

1. The Governments of Venezuela and Panama reaffirm their complete solidarity with the just cause of the Republic of Argentina in its struggle for territorial integrity.

2. The two governments express full support for the content of the note the Argentine permanent mission at the United Nations delivered to the UN Security Council president on 18 June 1982. This note stressed that a complete suspension of hostilities will only be achieved in the South Atlantic when the United Kingdom agrees to lift its naval and air blockade and economic sanctions and withdraw its military forces occupying the islands, the naval task force and the nuclear submarines.

3. The Venezuelan and Panamanian Governments state that the struggle for national sovereignty being waged by Argentina, with the heroic participation of all its air, ground and naval forces has not been in vain and that blood has not been shed uselessly; after 2 April the days of the British colonial presence in our continent are numbered.

4. The Governments of Venezuela and Panama announce their willingness now more than ever to continue their support in all aspects for the Argentine cause. They urge the great family of Latin American peoples to maintain continental unity and remain on the alert in the face of imperialist and colonialist attempts to break our increasing awareness that we are strong and respected only if we remain united.

5. The Governments of Venezuela and Panama state that the result of the battle in which Argentina resisted, in an unequal struggle, the aggression not only of the United Kingdom but of its powerful allies has not decided the ultimate fate of the Malvinas Islands. The ultimate fate can only be full Argentine sovereignty over territories occupied by British colonialism. This has been and will continue to be a Latin American cause.

6. The two urge the Argentine people, in these critical moments following the battle, to maintain the necessary national unity based on the participation of all sectors, so that, with a strength unseen since the early days of national independence, this unity can be the best guarantee to attain the historic goal of Argentina and the entire Latin American continent.

7. At the end of the consultations, the two foreign ministers stressed that their points of view were in full agreement in these consultations and that they are willing to consult the Latin American foreign ministers on actions to be followed.

COMMENTARY HITS 'INTERFERENCE' BY U.S. ENVOY

PA221315 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 22 Jun 82

[NOTIMEX's "Today's Opinion" editorial by (Raul Moreno Wonchi): "Ambassador John Gavin's Inappropriate Statements"]

[Text] The role of U.S. ambassador must be very difficult in any country, but even more so in Mexico. To the constant great temptation to set aside the norms and methods of diplomatic conduct and apply the huge power of the United States to impose its views and interests, one must add the complexities of Mexico's history, geography and economy.

It is the history of an unjust and inequitable relationship between neighbors. At the same time, it is the history of a nation forged in the struggle against colonialism, expansionism and imperialism. That is the reason for our nationalist zeal, for our constant concern about our sovereignty and our obsession about independence. Mexico's hypersensitivity about anything that smells of foreign intervention, interference and meddling in our domestic affairs is not only perfectly justifiable but (?necessary) and essential to confront any sign of intervention by another country in affairs that are solely the concern of Mexicans.

In light of this situation, which can well be said to have been shaped by history, the post of U.S. ambassador to Mexico is a real trial by fire of the diplomatic competence and sensibility of whoever occupies the position. One cannot forget previous unfortunate examples, such as Ambassador (Henry) [name indistinct] (Wilson), who encouraged and sponsored the assassination of President Madero and the coup d'etat of traitor Victoriano Huerta. Of course, there have also been ambassadors who have just been the opposite, such as Ambassador Josephus Daniel, who implemented Roosevelt's famous New Deal. His respect for Mexico won him the respect of the Mexicans in return.

It must be kept in mind that it is not Mexico's desire, nor is it in Mexico's interest, to enter into conflict with the U.S. Government. History also proves that the conflicts have always started with the North. For our country it is vitally necessary that relations with the United States develop within the framework of the greatest mutual respect. We have achieved quite a lot. The strength of our institutional life, the prestige of our foreign policy and the Mexican Government's firmness in relations with the United States have overcome some of the most negative U.S. attitudes, despite the irrepressible character of the U.S. Government.

Mr John Gavin, current U.S. ambassador to Mexico, should bear this in mind. He should also understand that the interest in adequate relations between his country and ours is increasingly less unilateral. Many North Americans have already become aware that it is also vital for them that relations with us develop on a good path.

Ambassador Gavin's remarks to the effect that Mexico should not provide political solutions to economic problems are not only inappropriate but also a completely unacceptable act of interference in Mexico's domestic affairs. Mr Gavin should know that this path does not lead anywhere.

BRIEFS

CONTRABAND WEAPONS SEIZED -- Mexico City, 17 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The authorities today seized contraband weapons which were to have been sold in Guerrero State. Federal judicial police agents in Zihuatanejo, Guerrero, have detained Raul Antony Salazar and Adolfo Guzman Reyes in connection with this case. The agents seized the smuggled weapons, which included several shotguns, a Winchester rifle, several .38 caliber pistols and a large number of cartridges. Salazar, a native of California, entered the country illegally with the help of Guzman Reyes, who also put him in touch with his clients. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0150 GMT 18 Jun 82 FL]

COSTA RICA

POLICE DISCOVER ETA LINK WITH DRUG TRAFFIC

PA212141 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 14 Jun 82 p 10A

[Text] Officials of the Judicial Investigation Organization, OIJ, are investigating the use of Costa Rican territory by the separatist Basque Fatherland and Liberty Organization, ETA, to periodically smuggle substantial amounts of cocaine from South America into Miami. To date, the authorities have gathered strong evidence that this organization has not only engaged in drug trafficking, but has infiltrated public offices for still undetermined purposes.

The OIJ investigators said they are about to exchange confidential information with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, DEA, regarding the ETA's illegal cocaine trade, which uses Costa Rica as a bridge between South America and Miami. According to the investigations, shipments of as much as 50 lbs of cocaine leave ports on the Pacific coast of South America every two weeks in large ships. However, the DEA loses track of these ships when they are in Costa Rican waters and the possibility is not ruled out that their cargo is systematically transferred to luxury yachts.

The cargo is then taken to Puntarenas, where ETA members are waiting to take it to Limon by automobile. The investigators suspect that the cocaine is loaded into Costa Rican-flag ships at this Atlantic port to avoid problems, and that it is then taken to Miami.

The drug is subsequently sold and a substantial part of the profits is sent to Spain to finance ETA activities. Another part of the profits is left in Latin American cities, to maintain a costly apparatus which the terrorist organization uses to conduct its activities. This apparatus includes former activists, mercenaries and local collaborators in each location.

Capture

The recent arrest of a Spanish resident here who is accused of involvement in the murder of a young male university student by the last name of Montero in La California district, provided a big lead for the OIJ's investigations. The Spaniard admitted his responsibility in the murder, attributing it to "emotional and psychological" problems that he experienced with the victim. The body of the university student was found 3 days after the murder. He was apparently smothered to death.

A more exhaustive interrogation revealed that the arrested Spaniard had secretly entered Costa Rica a few months earlier. He even obtained a Costa Rican passport illegally and voted in the February elections. He also married an unidentified Costa Rican woman. The Spaniard was kept in isolation for 15 days and then transferred to the national penitentiary system.

He was an ETA militant, but he was forced to emigrate to Latin America after he became involved in the murder of a Spanish couple for reasons of love. The organization helped him travel to Costa Rica and he was establishing contacts here when he became involved in the fight with the university student. One of the illegal activities in which the Spaniard participated here was the burglary of the home of a lady called Urbina in Montes de Oca [suburb of San Jose]. This invididual is considered dangerous. He is charged with several crimes in Panama.

At the time of his arrest he was carrying a .22-caliber pistol, which the authorities said was not very dangerous, considering his reputation. However, a subsequent analysis proved that each bullet contained small particles of quicksilver, which is highly poisonous.

Ramifications

Apart from the Spaniard who was arrested, the OIJ has determined that "the organization" has widely grown throughout San Jose. However, the OIJ has not revealed the identity or released a photograph of the Spaniard. The organization receives assistance from native collaborators and foreign mercenaries, such as the arrested Spaniard. It is headed by a foreign university professor, who is under close surveillance.

The OIJ agents are conducting the investigation very quietly. It has been learned, however, that a detailed report on the case may be released at any moment. The possibility that the ETA has important connections with public officials has not been discarded. Perhaps this allows the organization to operate with ease and speed. Besides, it has substantial resources with which to finance its activities. One of these sources is the cocaine traffic.

EL SALVADOR

PERMISSION DENIED FOR RED CROSS TO RECEIVE POW'S

PA222320 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpt] The Salvadoran Government has refused the International Red Cross permission to receive 43 soldiers who were taken prisoner by the FMLN in Morazan Department in the last few days.

The FMLN indicated that it would release the prisoners to the International Red Cross. The captured soldiers had also asked Salvadoran Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia to facilitate matters for the Red Cross in this regard.

PRESIDENT MAGANA POSTPONES VISIT TO GUATEMALA

PA220120 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2057 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Today, Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana Borja postponed a visit to Guatemala, where he was to meet with President Efrain Rios Montt. Although he did not give the reason for the postponement, Magana said that he would be visiting that country in two weeks, without further specifying the date. After that he will visit Panama.

President Magana attended a ceremony today, during which 300 land titles were delivered to 300 peasants of Cabanas Department, 58 km from San Salvador. The president noted that his tour of Central American countries does not include Nicaragua because "a true democracy does not exist there." Magana stated that in mid-July, he will announce the results of his visits last week to Honduras and Costa Rica.

DUARTE BEGINS TOUR WITH TRIP TO EUROPE

PA181310 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 17 Jun 82 pp 3, 57

[Text] Jose Napoleon Duarte, former president of the revolutionary government junta and leader of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], today begins a tour through Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and Belgium. "The objective of our visit to all those European countries and later to South America and the United States," Duarte said, "is to give a correct version of what is occurring in the country. I think all Salvadorans must tell the world what is taking place in El Salvador."

"Our mission is to correctly report on the latest changes in the country. We will explain the latest events; the defeat of the final offensive of the extreme leftwing, the social reforms and the 28 March elections which have led us to a constitutional regime as the first step in a ladder."

"We must also tell the world," he said, "that our second step, which will be the result of the first step, will be a legitimately elected government."

In a press conference held at PDC headquarters, Duarte expressed regrets that the current government is not one of real unity "even though I would like it to be so. It is not a government of unity because in a government of unity the political forces understand and respect each other and make joint efforts to benefit the country," Duarte said.

"There are people here who blame the PDC for all the country's ills. At this time, workers are also being unjustly dismissed and there are people who are daily insulting their political adversaries," Duarte said. "I am confident," he said, "that those sectors will understand that the people really want a government of unity and that the confrontation of forces is normal, but that when it becomes hatred, it harms the country..."

"In my tour through Europe, South America and the United States, I will also explain that subversion does not have strength to seize power in El Salvador and that the big victories that the subversives talk about abroad are not true. It is important that all of this be made known abroad," Duarte added. He will begin a visit to Europe today and then will tour Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru and then the United States.

REBELS' ADVERTISEMENT CALLS MAGANA 'FACADE'

PA191445 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Advertisement by the Farabundo Marti Committee]

[Text] Alvaro Magana, the provisional president of El Salvador, began his public career approximately 20 years ago when he was appointed president of the mortgage bank of El Salvador, a position which he held until he became provisional president. He was a founder of the National Conciliation Party. While president of the bank, he granted substantial loans at easy terms to army personnel. It is noteworthy that until 1979, the National Conciliation Party was the government's official party, and that top ranking military chiefs are members of the party. It was precisely the army that suggested Magana for the office of provisional president, at a time when political parties could not agree on a president for the recently established government.

Magana's appointment resulted from strong pressure from the U.S. Government and the Salvadoran Army on the Constituent Assembly. If we consider that the United States supplies the arms while the army carries out the pacification plan, or massacres the people, we can see how significant this pressure was.

The Salvadoran people will never forget the important role that Alvaro Magana is playing at this moment. The electoral farce gave a victory to the extreme right in El Salvador, led by Roberto d'Aubuisson who is said to be the leader of the paramilitary bands and to be involved with the assassination of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, archbishop of San Salvador.

During a period in which the government's image to the world is very important, it would not be right to show that d'Aubuisson is the man in power, with the support of the oligarchy and the army, Alvaro Magana was chosen as a facade and, so far, he has done a good job.

When Magana assumed the presidency, among the things he said was that there was nothing to avenge, to repress or negotiate. However, in the first month of his government, 334 Salvadorans were murdered and 71 sent to jail. But this is not all. Magana mentioned the importance of beginning his Central American tour in Honduras, but not because of that country's participation in the Central American Democratic Community, but because of its active participation in the Salvadoran military conflict.

The Honduran Armed Forces repress, arrest, torture and murder Salvadoran refugees. As if this were not enough, Honduran forces patrol Honduran borders, and go beyond that nation's borders to support the Salvadoran Army's massacres of civilians, and other actions against Salvadoran revolutionaries.

It is under Magana's government that the alleged agrarian reform has been suspended, a measure which contradicts U.S. strategy in El Salvador. Magana is trying to show his government as one of national unity, but contradictions are many and so serious that even Jose Napoleon Duarte had to say that rather than a national unity government, it is one of mere coincidence.

Alvaro Magana is bound and determined to play his role, but it will only make future generations remember him as a sad example of a Salvadoran president. [signed] Committee Farabundo Marti

FMLN REPORTEDLY ORDERS RETREAT FROM PERQUIN

PA221455 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] San Salvador -- After 14 days of military actions in Perquin and San Fernando, located in eastern San Salvador, the guerrillas damaged four helicopters, downed one and inflicted 550 casualties. The casualties included five officers killed and four wounded.

Radio Venceremos reported that, after seizing Perquin and San Fernando, the FMLN ordered the withdrawal of its forces because its goals had been met.

Commander Jorge Melendez said over Radio Venceremos that the goals had been to dislodge government forces from Perquin, recover weapons and break the advance of government troops from Torola to San Fernando, located in northern Morazan Department.

AFP: VENCEREMOS ACCOUNT OF CASTILLO CAPTURE

PA222149 Paris AFP in Spanish 0237 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpt] San Jose, Jun 21 (AFP) -- The clandestine Radio Venceremos said today that Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, El Salvador's deputy minister of defense, who was allegedly captured by the guerrillas last Saturday, "mistook the guerrillas for a treasury police patrol in the dark and identified himself." Castillo was fleeing from San Fernando, a town controlled by the rebels in the eastern Department of Morazan, where his helicopter fell or was downed by the FMLN guerrillas last Thursday.

Two of the passengers died in the crash and Castillo exchanged documents with one of them, Col Beltran Luna, in an attempt to fool the guerrillas [words indistinct]. Radio Venceremos said that, nevertheless, at least two [words indistinct] survived the crash. As a result, the FMLN immediately initiated a search and managed to apprehend one of them, who turned out to be Deputy Minister Castillo.

"Ernesto," one of the guerrillas who helped to apprehend Castillo, told the radio that "in the early morning hours Castillo thought he had run across a treasury police patrol, so we played along with him and he identified himself." Castillo revealed, among other things, "the fact that Honduran troops are participating in counterinsurgency operations in the border areas" and details of the Salvadoran Armed Forces' movements in "Operation Morazan," the largest such operation ever undertaken by the army, as official spokesmen have stated.

The army, (?which still) has neither confirmed nor denied the FMLN [words indistinct] about Castillo's capture, announced today that Mario Aguilar Hidalgo, the pilot of the crashed helicopter, reached government lines alive.

FMLN TO INCREASE ATTACKS ON ALL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC

PA230351 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0325 GMT 23 Jun 82

["Official communique" issued by the FMLN general headquarters in El Salvador; no date given]

[Text] The general headquarters of the FMLN informs all of our people that as of Wednesday, 23 June, our forces will implement the following measure: Beginning on Wednesday, 23 June, our forces will destroy the commercial transportation vehicles, whether collective or official, that travel on the nation's various highways. As of 24 June, this same measure will be applied to all kinds of vehicles, including private vehicles.

In recent days, the FMLN's military forces have dealt overwhelming defeats to the dictatorship's military forces. The FMLN is advancing on the path that will lead our people to victory. Our military forces are growing and developing, their foundation being the awareness and willingness to fight and struggle expressed by all of our people. The FMLN's battles and military activity are increasing throughout the country. Similarly, the dictatorship's army is increasing its military deployment through the main highways of our territory. Because of this, we call on our people to avoid movement to the country's interior and we call on our military forces to implement the measure announced herein as of 23 June. United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win! [Signed] Headquarters of the FMLN.

VENCEREMOS CITES FMLN QUESTIONING OF CASTILLO

PA230436 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 23 Jun 82

["First interview" with Defense Under Secretary Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo; place and date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Castillo -- broadcast in progress]...Francisco Castillo.

[Question] What is your position?

[Answer] Under secretary of defense.

[Question] Under secretary of defense. Can you tell us, for Radio Venceremos, what kind of treatment you have received from the companeros?

[Answer] Well, the usual for a prisoner.

[Question] Could you tell us how the accident occurred to the helicopter in which you were travelling?

[Answer] We were going to observe the situation of the personnel at San Fernando, when there was an impact against the helicopter and it crashed.

[Question] Was the impact against the helicopter caused by machinegun or rifle fire?

[Answer] I couldn't say whether it was rifle or machinegun fire. Since almost all rifles are automatic, like machineguns, I couldn't say.

[Question] What was your mission when you were aboard the helicopter?

[Answer] Since my job is personnel administration, I was visiting the various sites to see what the personnel needs were.

[Question] Who else was in the helicopter?

[Answer] Colonel Beltran Luna.

[Question] Where were you heading?

[Answer] Somewhere in the area to try to avoid capture.

[Question] Now that you are a prisoner of the FMLN, what are your expectations?

[Answer] To what do you refer?

[Question] To your person, to your release, to your condition as a prisoner.

[Answer] Well, the same (?expectations) as any person who is captured would have.

[Question] Are you aware of what has happened to other members of the army who have become FMLN prisoners of war?

[Answer] No, not really.

[Question] Do you know that the army high command has emphatically refused to admit that prisoners have been taken on previous occasions?

[Answer] Well, normally the term prisoner of war is limited in international law to prisoners taken in conventional wars.

[Question] You don't believe that this is a war that has all the characteristics of such, under the law?

[Answer] Not to me it doesn't.

[Question] Then what do you think your status is at this moment?

[Answer] I am a captive.

[Question] A captive. You don't feel that you have rights under international law or rights with regard to the Red Cross or anything of the sort? You are just a captive?

[Answer] All rights, yes, because all the human beings have rights.

GUATEMALA

RIOS MONTT: GOVERNMENT SEEKS TALKS WITH REBELS

PA220440 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 16 Jun 82 p 2

[Excerpts] The Guatemalan Government will push for a meeting with subversives in the coming days, at an as yet unspecified date, as part of the dialogue which Guatemalan authorities seek to hold in keeping with the amnesty. Gen Efrain Rios Montt, president of Guatemala, announced this yesterday, in his first weekly chat with newsmen at this office in the presence of Rafael Escobar Arguello, under secretary of public relations of the presidency, and newsman.

The president indicated that his chats with the press will be held on a weekly basis, not to give exclusive information, but as a means of informing the general public as broadly as possible. For this, he indicated, the secretariat of public relations of the presidency will announce the date and time of these chats to discuss topics of national interest.

President Rios Montt announced that he will soon meet in this capital with Salvadoran President Dr Alvaro Magana B. An agenda has still not been drafted.

During yesterday's presidential chat with the press, a wide range of topics was discussed, responding to each newsman's concerns. Among these concerns, the most important was the resumption of negotiations on the Belize issue, because Guatemala considers that the dispute is still unresolved. The president anticipated a probable cabinet reshuffle late this month and a revitalization of the national economy before the country is politically stable. President Rios Montt indicated that it is hoped that his revitalization will be achieved during the coming 30 months.

He also announced that loan negotiations are underway with the United States as part of that country's economic assistance to our country. He said that there is no rift within the army as a result of the dissolution of the military government junta, since it was carried out with the army's approval; and that more than 20 municipalities destroyed by the subversives will be rebuilt. For this reconstruction, and for the country's recovery the government counts on the assistance of U.S. Christian organizations. He noted that the government will aid in resolving the economic problems of all the municipalities within its financial capabilities.

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT SUAZO SETS TRIP TO U.S. TO SEEK AID

PA221540 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] President Roberto Suazo Cordova will leave soon for the United States where, among other things, he will meet with President Ronald Reagan to discuss several topics of general interest to Honduras and to request assistance to implement a broad-ranging development plan.

Pursuant to the national Constitution, Government and Justice Minister Oscar Mejia Arellano will be acting president during President Suazo's absence. Mejia resumed his post yesterday after an absence of 1 month under a special permit from the chief executive. This will be the second time Mejia Arellano has been acting president. The first time was in May, when President Suazo attended the inauguration of Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge.

OFFICIAL DENIES MASSACRE OF SALVADORAN REFUGEES

PA230412 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 22 Jun 82 p 2

[Excerpts] Col Abraham Garcia Turcios, coordinator of the national commission for refugees, has said that 236 Salvadoran refugees entered the country through the La Virtud border area. He denied the reports that Honduran and Salvadoran troops massacred civilians from the neighboring country.

Garcia Turcios said that several groups of refugees arrived last week through the La Virtud area. "A group of 173 people arrived first, followed by a group of 31 people and finally another 32 people came. They were looked after by Acnur, the [UN High Commission for Refugees] field official who lives in that border municipality," he said.

Garcia Turcios said that "the refugees only stayed in La Virtud for 24 hours. From there they were transferred to Mesa Grande, where we are keeping all Salvadorans who enter the country after fleeing the violence in El Salvador."

Garcia Turcios reiterated that "leftist organizations are trying to keep the people misinformed by releasing false reports, such as the one that was published as a paid advertisement in a San Pedro Sula newspaper accusing the Honduran Army of participating in the massacre of refugees, which is completely untrue."

NICARAGUA

DEPUTY MINISTER TINOCO TRAVELS TO YUGOSLAVIA

PA222316 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Foreign Ministry sources reported this morning that Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco has traveled to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on a mission related to his diplomatic functions. The Foreign Ministry also announced that Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Brockman will be arriving from New York on Thursday, 24 June. D'Escoto is participating in the UN special General Assembly session on disarmament, in which he expressed the Nicaraguan stand on the danger that hangs over the world's peoples as a result of Yankee imperialism's arms race.

STATION RESUMES BROADCASTS, REAFFIRMS POLICY

PA230402 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Station editorial]

[Text] This morning, we wish to say that we realize that the reappearance of this radio newscast comes at a time of great expectancy, and that many people wonder what the policy of "El Despertar" [name of the newscast] will be henceforth.

In 1 and 1/2 years of combativeness, the newscast has developed a daily formulation of serious and critical expositions. Our position is one of complete support for the revolution; and because of this support and because of our commitment to the revolution, we will not stop pointing out errors that might or do affect the course of this revolutionary process.

We are aware that Nicaraguans are experiencing difficult times. From oval offices in Washington or from tall skyscrapers in New York, people who are completely alien to our culture, our history and our destiny draft evil plans that are later implemented by gangs of individuals who have learned nothing in life but theft and murder.

The power centers of the metropolis also decree economic crises, cut loans, and manipulate the complex mechanisms that determine the prices of our exports, of our weak export structure. This is the framework in which Nicaragua exists today: Face with the express and manifest threat of the most powerful country in the world, with the presence of murderous bands along both of our borders and, moreover, with a large-scale campaign being waged by communications media abroad in an effort to erode links of solidarity with our country. In this regard, we must state that the position of the Social Christian Party, which asked its colleagues of the EEC to refrain from suspending aid to Nicaragua, is a patriotic one.

We were saying that this is Nicaragua's frame of existence: one of emergency. Nevertheless, we must say that the government made a wise move in authorizing the return of the independent newscasts. We inform, criticize and question, but that has nothing to do with the imperialist threat or the imperialist activity. On the contrary, the people only strengthen their beliefs by expressing themselves freely through the organs of information in which they have traditionally placed their trust.

The reappearance of the media that have been authorized is, in our opinion, breathing the responsibility and the challenge of informing and guiding the people properly.

As is said whenever an oath of office is taken, the fatherland and the people will either reward us or will take action against us if we fail in this important and delicate mission. Today we renew our oath to you. Thank you.

PSC LEADER ASKS FOR MORE FREEDOM, PLURALISM

PA211655 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] Adan Fletes, president of the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party [PSC], yesterday discussed several important issues related to current political and economic developments in Nicaragua during an interview with Noticieros Extra [name of newscast], which questioned him about his recent message to the world Christian Democratic Union.

Fletes stressed that the note sent to Mariano Rumor, president of the Christain Democratic organization, asking that a favorable attitude be adopted in regard to continued assistance to Nicaragua, is consistent with his party's politics. He added that all Nicaraguan political parties should join the efforts of Nicaragua's society as a whole to overcome the current state of national disaster. He did, however, register his disagreement with some restrictions which have resulted from the national state of emergency.

Fletes said this morning in front of our microphones that he disagrees with Alfonso Robelo [leader of Nicaraguan Democratic Movement] and his assertions that the civic path is exhausted in Nicaragua. To prove that this is not so, the PSC leader listed the various political, labor and economic organizations which are active in Nicaragua within the revolution's framework. You will now hear Fletes' statement:

[Begin recording] [Fletes] We learned from recent reports that the European Parliament was going to discuss a motion to suspend economic cooperation to Nicaragua. As a permanent political line, our country has urged all democratic countries to continue their assistance and cooperation to our country. There was also a report -- although I do not know if it was based on fact -- that some of the delegates to the European Parliament's meetings were Social Christian. Upon learning of this report, we thought it necessary to reiterate the PSC's stance on this particular subject and therefore sent a telegram to the president of the Christian Democratic Union that very same day urging him to outline the position of the Nicaraguan social democratic sector to the European governments and Social Christian parties.

[Question] What do you think should be the main task of the Nicaraguan political parties at this moment, particularly in view of the state of emergency in the country?

[Answer] The PSC adopted a line of cooperation with the Nicaraguan people in the wake of the disaster caused by the rains and even before publication of the [word indistinct] by some news media. We think that the Nicaraguan political parties can play an important role during this emergency, but that this should also include talking about these important aspects. We think that freedom of political organization and mobilization should be granted to all political organizations, which currently face some restrictions because of the state of emergency. I think that after this, the participation of the parties may be more favorable to the country's economic, social and political development. I feel that without doubt, the country requires a firm national solidarity and that the Sandinist front party may play an important role under these circumstances.

[Question] Commander Bayardo Arce told a U.S. delegation recently that the United States' aggressive policy of trying to undermine the country's economy is substantially harming Nicaragua's mixed economy. What is your opinion?

[Answer] The topic can be viewed from many angles. One must bear in mind that the United States is not the sole source of assistance in the world. There is also Western Europe, Japan and some Latin American countries which also have means.

If the United States adopts a foreign policy of harassment in connection with Nicaragua's situation and refuses to cooperate, Nicaragua has the option of resorting to the Western European countries. However, I do not think that aggressive U.S. policy should lead to the destruction of Nicaragua's mixed economy system. I think that the Nicaraguan Government should regard the mixed economic system as a matter of principle regardless of whatever foreign policy line the United States may adopt. Similarly, pluralism must not be smothered because of the U.S. foreign policy. Rather, I feel it should be exactly the opposite. I think that it is the government's duty to strengthen the mixed economic system and pluralism to defeat the U.S. foreign policy the Reagan administration is currently implementing. This would be my response in this case.

[Question] Finally, Mr Fletes, Alfonso Robelo said recently that the so-called civic path is exhausted in Nicaragua. Does the PSC agree with this opinion?

[Answer] We disagree with this opinion. We said recently that the political space has been gradually shrinking in Nicaragua and that the emergency law has reduced it even further. However, we believe that despite this situation the civic path has not been exhausted. Proof of this is we still have in Nicaragua two labor federations -- the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers and the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions; four political parties of democratic tendency, such as the Democratic Conservative Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Liberal Constitutionalist Movement and the Social Christian Party; as well as the private organizations.

We are making every possible effort to obtain an expansion, rather than a narrowing, of the political leeway in Nicaragua and, as with many other important aspects of our country's life, the decision largely depends on whatever policy is followed by the FSLN. [end recording]

OFFICIAL SAYS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 'DEAD'

PA220334 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Justo Fidel Palacios interview with Fabio Gadea Mantilla, Nicaraguan businessman, prominent member of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement and president of the Chamber of Communications Media of Nicaragua — recorded; date not given]

[Palacios] Don Fabio, regarding the situation of freedom of expression in Nicaragua, what can you tell us?

[Gadea] Well, as president of the Chamber of Communications Media of Nicaragua, I can tell you that in my opinion, freedom of expression is nonexistent in Nicaragua. A brief, quick panorama will make you realize that I am telling you the truth. In 1979 we had approximately 70 private radio stations, one of which was state-owned. And it is true that Somoza used it for his party, the Nationalist Liberal Party.

Today, of those 70 radio stations, we do not know what has happened to some of them. The party that governs Nicaragua has taken over some, and most likely, the others have been taken over to be used for spare parts. There are only five private radio stations. Our radio station, Radio Corporacion, has been controlled by the state, and this is not known in Nicaragua because of the existing censorship.

In other words, 98 per cent of the radio broadcasting industry belongs to the state party, and approximately 2 percent belongs to private enterprise, and they play only music. Of the press, 66 percent is openly under the state party, and 33 percent, the newspaper LA PRENSA, is private. It is subject to censorship to such an extent that no information can be given on any independent political party, no information can be given on the private sector aiding in the floods, and things like that which are totally subject to censorship. And as for the television programs, they are completely controlled by the state party.

Both channels belong to the state. Along with the existing emergency law and the remaining five radio stations, which cannot transmit newscasts or editorial programs, well, frankly, freedom of expression is a myth in Nicaragua.

[Palacios] What is the situation faced by communications professionals in Nicaragua?

[Gadea] Those who are aligned with the government are aligned with the government, period. They work in radio stations aligned with the government. The day before yesterday there was a wire dispatch indicating that the Nicaraguan Government had just lifted the suspension of four radio newscasts. Those radio newscasts had been taken off the air, and were reinstated. Of those radio newscasts, three belong to the government -- two of Radio Sandino, one of La Voz de Nicaragua -- and one, Radio Mundial, is independent. And that one, entitled "The Moment," is a newscast which we might say does not dare to engage in deep criticism, but is very careful about what it says. But we cannot say that just because four radio programs returned to the air, everything can be said. Because the emergency law authorizes the communications media to constantly call the radio stations and threaten to close them. LA PRENSA is subject to censorship every day. Its circulation is delayed and it always comes out later than usual. [as heard] And its circulation has dropped. Furthermore, it does not report anything, it cannot write about anything important, hence, it cannot criticize the government. With a press that is gagged to the extreme, as happened only in severe moments of Somozism, with a radio broadcasting system that is totally defunct, without radio newscasts, without commentary programs, without opinion programs, and with television channels which are totally aligned with the government, I think that freedom of expression is dead in Nicaragua. This greatly saddens me, because freedom of expression is the fundamental basis of all the other freedoms. You may not have freedom of movement, but if you have freedom of expression you can denounce that there is no freedom of movement. But if you lack freedom of expression, you might as well not have freedom of movement, freedom to go about on the streets, freedom to have your life respected. If you lack freedom of expression, the other freedoms can be violated at any moment, yet you cannot denounce it. That is why freedom of expression is the principal freedom of a country, and in my opinion, that freedom is defunct in Nicaragua.

[Palacios] Don Fabio, what can be done to restore freedom of expression in Nicaragua?

[Gadea] According to the parameters of the current government in Nicaragua -- for which any criticism is considered as if it stems from counterrevolutionary, bourgeois betrayals, etc., which are the epithets they use -- according to those parameters, I see no hope that freedom of expression can exist again in Nicaragua, because if the number of privately owned radio stations continues to decline, if they are increasingly threatened, and if censorship of the press is increased, if they have completely prohibited television stations that can express different opinions, if they have prohibited Monsignor Obando from having mass on television, well I do not see any hope that Nicaragua will have a chance for freedom of expression under that government; I really do not see it.

COMMANDER ARCE SPEAKS ON MIXED ECONOMY PLANS

PA191922 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jun 82

[Text] In response to a question from a U.S. member of the (?Exxon) of American delegation last night, Bayardo Arce Castano, commander of the revolution, said that there will be a mixed economy in Nicaragua, as long as it is based on the interests of the Nicaraguan people.

The coordinator of the FSLN Political Committee said that it is not the people who represent a threat to the mixed economy. We think, he said, that a mixed economy can help solve the needs of the people. A mixed economy is in danger as a result of two political wills; the political will of the revolutionary government, which wants to maintain a mixed economy; and the political will of the Reagan administration which wants to destroy the revolution.

Commander Arce said that one of the factors that will determine the will which will prevail is the international community; Arce continued, noting that until now Nicaragua has succeeded in having European, Latin American, Arab and socialist countries cooperate to sustain our revolutionary government.

He said that there is only one country in the world that does not help us, the United States. And this is the country, he said, that does not want anyone to help us, and looks to sabotage Nicaragua's efforts to gain cooperation.

The U.S. Government was opposed to the World Bank loan to improve our poor neighborhoods, it opposed an IDB loan to promote peasant cooperatives and it opposed our position of collectively negotiating the government's debts with other countries. All this endangers the mixed economy, Arce said, because if we are pushed to an extreme situation "to a situation in which we will have only whatever we may produce and only a little foreign aid from countries that do not yield to pressure from the Reagan administration, then it will be difficult to maintain a mixed economy. This is because, Commander Arce said, there cannot be an economically affluent sector while thousands of Nicaraguan children and workers starve to death.

If the political will of the Reagan administration changes, the mixed economy will be consolidated, which will improve future economic prospects, and therefore, improve the future for our people, Commander Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the political Committee of the FSLN, stated.

FAGOTH CITES MOVES TO 'BEGIN' ARMED STRUGGLE

PA221810 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Miskito leader Steadman Fagoth yesterday denied that he had been the target of an attack in which he allegedly received several bullet wounds which forced his internment in a hospital. Interviewed by the clandestine station "La Voz de Nicaragua," [as published] Fagoth said that the report on the attack "is merely a lie of the Sandinist leaders who are enslaving Nicaragua and are trying to sow dissent among the Indians." According to this version, the attempt on the life of the Miskito biologist was a result of his differences with another leader of that tribe. This is an allegation that Fagoth denied, adding that the Indian movement "is more united than ever."

Furthermore, the representative of the Miskito, Sumos and Ramas accused the Sandinist leaders of constantly planning violent actions against the Indians of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast, the latest of which occurred the previous week against a group of Miskitos. Fagoth noted that he is actively working for his supporters. He disclosed that the necessary steps are being taken to begin the armed struggle against the Sandinist leadership. He described this decision as "irreversible."

In conclusion, he said that discontent among Nicaraguan citizens grows greater each day over the way in which the leaders are leading the country's destiny. He added that this discontent is being used by leaders like Eden Pastore and Alfonso Robelo who are already preparing to throw Marxism from power.

COMMANDER NUNEZ RETURNS FROM VISIT TO BULGARIA

PA230010 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Yesterday, Carlos Nunez, commander of the revolution and president of the State Council, returning from Bulgaria, where he attended ceremonies commemorating the 10th anniversary of the birth of Georgi Dimitrov, founder of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria. A FSLN delegation led by Henry Ruiz, commander of the revolution and planning minister, welcomed the Sandinist leader at the Augusto C. Sandino International Airport.

U.S. SOLUTION FOR EL SALVADOR SEEN AS FAILURE

FL221650 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1216 GMT 22 Jun 82

[International commentary by Miguel Toirac, of the "Revista de la Manana" editorial staff and Javier Rodriguez of PRENSA LATINA]

[Text] [Toirac] This morning we are going to discuss the present situation in El Salvador with the beginning of an FMLN offensive, an indication of the surge in guerrilla activity, in fact, Javier, this activity was rewarded recently with the capture of Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo [words indistinct]. This clearly shows that the electoral farce staged in El Salvador did not satisfy the Salvadoran people's yearnings for democracy but the other way around.

[Rodriguez] I feel that what is happening in El Salvador is a true disaster for U.S. plans in this Central American nation. The most recent events demonstrate that the much-touted military operations, one after the other, aimed at eliminating the guerrillas have failed. In addition, as you pointed out, events demonstrate that the recent electoral masquerade sponsored by the United States has not solved the situation in El Salvador. This was something that both the revolutionaries of the FMLN and all the continent's democratic and progressive forces warned about when they raised their voices to point out that this electoral masquerade, which ultimately took the ultrareactionaries to power, would not solve in the least the deep crisis that exists in El Salvador as a result of the genocidal government ruling there.

In the past few weeks, all the military and economic means provided by the Reagan administration to the Salvadoran Government to crush the guerrillas have been brought into play to deal a mortal blow to the FMLN. Even the special batallions have been assigned to the fighting in Morazan Department. These special batallions were trained in the United States -- there are three batallions now -- for counterinsurgency purposes. They were trained to try to deal the supposedly final blow to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

The results have been nil from the military and political standpoint. The only thing they have been able to accomplish so far is to increase to outrageous levels the number of innocent victims in towns and villages that have been ravaged by the government soldiers.

Now, is the time to mention that when this operation began a few weeks ago, the regime was assured that the means provided by the United States would be enough to solve the problem. What has been the outcome? The most scandalous and talked-about failure of the operation. Once again the United States is faced with the problem: What to do to advance its plans in the Central American country to be able to crush the Salvadoran resistance?

I believe that they are really at an impasse, Toirac. I do not know how you feel about this, but we see, for example, that more than 5,000 men were sent into battle in Morazan Department, a department in eastern El Salvador which is firmly under control of the guerrillas. The new planes provided by the United States were used for the first time. These planes are the kind that fly at low altitude to attack small jungle areas. In fact, the United States used them in Vietnam. They were also used now in Morazan as part of this so-called military offensive to destroy the guerrillas.

The three much-talked-about counterinsurgency batallions were used and even Honduran soldiers participated in the fighting. This is something worth mentioning. They even had to call on the Honduran soldiers for help. I see from the latest press reports that these Hondurans came off badly from the whole thing.

[Toirac] Yes, I believe these are the last attempts by the genocidal government to try to eliminate the guerrilla movement in El Salvador. The Morazan operation with the three batallions -- Atlacatl, Belloso and Atonatl -- trained by the United States has shown that despite the training, the results were not the predicted ones.

As you noted, the guerrilla reports tell of the capture of Deputy Defense Minister Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo and reveals the participation of Honduran troops in the fighting.

[Rodriguez] Allow me to mention that according to the last reports, the Honduran troops suffered 30 dead and 60 injured in their fighting with the guerrillas. So as I was telling you, they did not come off too well in their Morazan incursion.

[Toirac] The disrepute is such that the FMLN has tried to turn over the prisoners it has held for over 15 days to the International Red Cross and the Salvadoran Government does not allow it. In other words, demoralization is almost total.

[Rodriguez] Yes, the regime denied authorization. The United States is in a quandary. It does not know how to solve the problem in El Salvador and is once again, as the media has charged, contemplating the possibility of direct intervention in El Salvador.

In other words, it has solved nothing with the electoral masquerade. The new government and the rise to power of the head of the death squads have solved nothing either. The U.S.-trained batallions that are already operating in Morazan have solved nothing. Neither have the military resources and economic aid. What is left for the United States in El Salvador? All that is left is the possibility of direct intervention. But of course, that is something very serious. It is something that would cause a real Latin American outcry. After the Malvinas, it would be nothing short of unpleasant for the imperialists should they opt for direct intervention.

[Toirac] I feel, Javier, that as you say, the United States is thinking of direct intervention. In addition, there undoubtedly has been an intensification of the genocide against the brother Salvador people; there are daily press reports of massacres against the people in various points of the country. In the end, this is not going to solve the situation. The solution lies in the desire for liberation of the brother Salvadoran people.

MINISTER FARAH REPORTS 2,000 WORKERS IN LIBYA

PA222010 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Delegations of Cuba and Libya are studying in Tripoli the development of old agreements and the signing of new agreements in the construction sphere. The two delegations are headed by Levi Farah, Cuban minister for overseas constructions, and Muhammad Ahmad al-Manqush, Libyan housing minister.

In an interview with the Libyan press, Farah praised bilateral agreements in the areas of medicine, trade and agriculture, as well as the participation of more than 2,000 Cuban internationalist workers who are involved in the construction of important projects in Libya.

BAHAMAS

GOVERNOR GENERAL CASH SWEARS IN NEW CABINET

FL221330 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpt] His excellency the governor general, Sir Gerald Cash, yesterday morning swore in the new Bahamas cabinet at Government House. The (?12) cabinet ministers all promised to remain true and faithful ministers and to do the best in their judgment at all times.

The ministers appointed include the Honorable Arthur D. Hanna, deputy prime minister and minister of finance; the Honorable Clement T. Maynard, minister of labor and home affairs; the Honorable Livingston Coakley, minister of health; the Honorable A. Loftus Roker, minister of works and utilities; the Honorable Darrell E. Rolle, minister of education; the Honorable George A. Smith, minister of agriculture, fisheries and the local government; the honorable Alfred T. Maycock, minister of economic affairs; the Honorable Perry G. Christie, minister of tourism; the Honorable Philip M. Bethel, minister of transport, the Honorable Kendal W. Nottage, minister of youth, sports and community affairs; the Honorable Hubert A. Ingraham, minister of housing and national insurance; the Honorable Paul L. Adderley, senator and minister of external affairs and attorney general.

GRENADA

BISHOP DISCUSSES EUROPEAN TRIP, AGREEMENTS

FL221149 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said that one lesson that imperialism has learned from the people of Grenada, following the 19 June 1980 bomb blast, was that the people of Grenada would never submit to them. He said that the people of Grenada had shown imperalism that they would fight back whenever they struck.

At [word indistinct] heroes day rally at the Queen's Park this afternoon, the prime minister noted that the attack on the people of Grenada 2 years ago indicates that imperialism is a wounded creature and as such is desperate.

[Begin Bishop recording] But [words indistinct] we are to understand also that in the final analysis the best way in which we can honor our heroes and martyrs, the best way in which we can pay tribute to these martyrs and heroes, is to build production in our country; is to honor in every single way the full meaning and impact of our national struggle for this year, our year of economic construction; to honor our programs of working harder, producing more and building Grenada. If we do this, Comrades, that will be the best possible way in which we can salute our martyrs and our heroes. [End recording]

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Bishop, who returned to Grenada today, following visits to the GDR, Bulgaria and Libya, said that from his impressions on the visit, Grenada continues to have the support of the world's progressive and socialist forces. Describing the trip as economically, morally and educationally successful, the Grenadian leader noted that all of the objectives that the delegation had set itself were fulfilled.

The prime minister noted that with the capitalist world in crisis there was a need for Grenada to diversify its trading partners. With this in mind, Prime Minister Bishop noted that the PRG [People's Revolutionary Government] was able to reach trading agreements with all the countries that were visited. As a result of imperialism's rape of Grenada over many years, the manufacturing base in this country, including the building of factories, were never developed. In order to reverse this situation, the Grenada delegation was able to come to an agreement with the GDR to supply this country with a copra processing plant and agricultural equipment. The GDR, the prime minister pointed out, will extend to Grenada a line of credit that will amount to some $14 million for purchase of agricultural equipment and other materials. In Bulgaria, the Grenada delegation was also able to confirm other forms of assistance, including the purchase of the ice-making plant for Grenada. In describing the need for Grenada to develop links with socialist Europe, Prime Minister Bishop noted that these countries have always supported the Third World and national liberation movements.

[Begin Bishop recording] We see it as being important because of the bold, rock-hard and principled support that members of the socialist world have always given to the national liberation movements that have been started all around the world. When the United States was unleashing bombs and fear on the people of Vietnam, it was the socialist world that stood with the people of Vietnam. When the United States was unleashing their guns on the people of Cuba in 1961, it was the socialist world that stood with the people of revolutionary Cuba. When the United States was arming counterrevolutionaries in Angola, in Mozambique, in Zimbabwe, in Guinea-Bissau, [words indistinct] at people, the socialist world stood with the national liberation movements of Africa. And we feel as a matter of fundamental principle that we have to develop ties with countries such as these. [end recording]

Additionally, Prime Minister Bishop had good news on the visit to the Grenada delegation to the Arab state of Libya.

[Begin Bishop recording] At the time when we are having so many problems and so much pressure from imperialism, at a time when the economy is under the worst toss and turns because of the world inflationary crisis, another objective which we sought to attain was the objective of trying to obtain financial assistance for our government (?and people). And here again as a result of agreements which we (?reached) first of all the Government and people of Libya, once again, as a further act of solidarity and cooperation with the people of Grenada, the Government of Libya has provided an 8-year interest-free loan of $4 million United States dollars to our government and peoples. [end recording]

Libya has also agreed to supply some 8,000 barrels of oil, 300 tons of steel and 70,000 tons of cement to Grenada, to be used in the construction of the international airport. They have also agreed to set up a joint investment company with Grenada which will make investments in the areas of tourism, agriculture and fisheries.

Meanwhile, the Grenada leader said that apart from the material assistance given to this country, the delegation had the opportunity to see the building of socialism in Eastern Europe and the Libyan revolutionary process.

BRAZIL

NAVY PLANNING TO PURCHASE NEW MISSILES THIS YEAR

PY230020 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jun 82 p 1

[Text] The Brazilian Navy will buy missiles this year. This was reported by Minister Maximiano da Fonseca, who mentioned, without supplying any details, the decision reached during the navy high command meeting held yesterday to discuss the navy's budget for the second half of this year. The purchase of missiles is part of the navy's plan to acquire new equipment.

The statement by Gen Alacir Werner, head of the armed forces general staff, that "the arms race is something the civilians are always talking about" provoked the reaction in Congress of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization party bloc. The deputy leader of the bloc, Jorge Uequed, announced that in August he will propose the establishment of a parliamentary group aimed at "struggling against the idea of an arms buildup which has been gaining support among certain sectors of the nation."

CHILE

PINOCHET CITES DOMESTIC IMPACT OF WORLD RECESSION

PY221623 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Marxists and politicians will try to magnify the effects of the recession that is preying on our economy, President Pinochet said yesterday in speaking to the citizens of La Ligua, a municipality founded 228 years ago and capital of the province of Petorca.

In expressing his thanks for the greetings which, on behalf of the people were presented to him by the mayoress, the president said every Chilean should make a direct contribution to the common task of working for the country's progress by devoting his aspirations and efforts to community affairs. The chief of state said we are experiencing difficult times because we have been affected by problems beyond our control since these originated abroad, and thus the world recession has had a strong impact on us. The prices of our main products, he pointed out, have dipped to unimaginably low levels and, to alleviate their negative effects, the government has adopted a number of measures which have been selected from several alternatives. Therefore the measures adopted are the least onerous for the needy sectors; those which were deemed technically most appropriate to cope with the recession.

However, Pinochet added, Marxists and politicians, true to character, will try to magnify the effects of the recession, but without offering anything, not even an explanation that the true cause of the economic problem lies abroad, beyond our control, and that therefore the measures we have adopted will only lessen the effects from a world recession.

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES -- During the first trimester of 1982 Colombian foreign trade amounted to $2,131,000,000, distributed as follows: Imports $1,165,000,000, up 1.8 percent compared with 1981, and exports $945,800,000, up by 34.3 percent compared with 1981. The main export product was coffee, in the amount of $387,600,000. According to the Foreign Trade Institute, these are not final figures and could change. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 82 PA]

PARAGUAY

PARAGUAY RIVER FLOODS CAUSING WIDESPREAD DAMAGE

PY221847 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 22 Jun 82 p 15

[Text] Bahia Negra -- People living in areas along the Paraguay River are being seriously affected this year by an unusual flood. This small town of approximately 2,000 inhabitants, located north of the capital of Alto Paraguay Department, has been badly damaged by waters, which have even surpassed the 6.77-meter level registered in the flood of 1979. The water is now at 6.95 meters and is flooding houses in the area.

However, people living in two-story houses or in houses with attics can wait until the waters recede. The military institutions, the school and a private house are two-story buildings; the other houses have no protection. The new buildings under construction by the Commission for the Development of Bahia Negra (CODEBANE) are completely flooded.

Those who know the area say the flood covers a 65-km area in Bahia Negra, in Paraguayan territory, and an area of approximately 150 km in some areas, while in others it reaches another 150 km. This occurs because that part of Brazilian territory affected by the flood is a swamp and its only natural barrier is the mountain range of Matto Grosso do Sul State.

PERU

BRIEFS

FOOT-AND-MOUTH OUTBREAK -- An outbreak of infectious foot-and-mouth disease around (Alamor), Ecuador, which borders San Jacinto district, Tumbes Department, has mobilized the members of the Regional Agricultural Board to prevent the spread of the disease among the country's cattle. [Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Jun 82 PY]

SURINAME

COMMERCIAL OIL PRODUCTION TO START IN NOVEMBER

FL230105 Bridgetown CANA in English 2223 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, June 22 (CANA) -- When Suriname starts commercial production of petroleum in November, it will from the outset be meeting three percent of the country's needs, it has been officially announced here. The State Oil Commission, a government agency, said it envisaged production of 500 barrels a day -- some 182,000 barrels a year -- last valued at 125 million dollars (U.S.).

Oil commission director, Dr Edward Jharap, said research had so far shown that there is at least 100 million barrels of oil in an area called Saramaca, where the exploration is concentrated. Dr Jharap said however that using the more primitve methods employed here now only eight percent of this crude could be brought to the surface, but with more modern technology this could be increased to half.

So far, six wells have been sunk in Saramaca. The petroleum discovered so far is heavy fuel oil, which has to be diluted with a lighter imported variety. This mixture will be used for low and minimum speed motors. Suriname uses more than 3.5 million barrels of heavy fuel oil annually, and more than 1.2 million barrels of the light type.

Dr Jharap has described the use of light fuel instead of the heavy fuel in small companies as a waste of money. He said the 182,000 barrels the company expects to produce in its first year will bring the country 4.5 million dollars, which will be used for expansion of exploration. There are 35 people employed in the state-oil company.